

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method of determining communications channel performance,
2 comprising:
3 calculating a data communications speed of the communications channel
4 based on records used for high-speed access qualification;
5 determining an actual data communications speed of the communications
6 channel; and
7 comparing the calculated data communications speed and the actual data
8 communications speed to determine if the records are accurate.

1 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising generating a value for updating
2 the records in response to a difference between the calculated data communications speed
3 and actual data communications speed.

1 3. The method of claim 2, further comprising providing a user interface to
2 display content of the records stored in the database.

1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein generating the value comprises receiving
2 user modification of the content of the records displayed in the user interface.

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein calculating the data communications
2 speed of the communications channel comprises calculating the data communications
3 speed of a Digital Subscriber Line subscriber loop.

1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein determining the actual data
2 communications speed comprises accessing a value in a Digital Subscriber Line access
3 module.

1 7. The method of claim 1, further comprising accessing the records in a
2 database system, the records containing at least one of the following information:
3 insulation type of a cable included in the communications channel; a percentage of a
4 large gauge section of the cable; a percentage of a small gauge section of the cable; a
5 gauge size of the large gauge section; a gauge size of the small gauge section of the
6 cable; an installation technique of the large gauge section; and an installation technique
7 of the small gauge section.

1 8. The method of claim 1, further comprising accessing the records in a
2 database system, the records containing at least one of the following information:
3 insulation type of a cable included in the communications channel; a percentage of a
4 large gauge section of the cable; a percentage of a small gauge section of the cable; a
5 gauge size of the large gauge section; a gauge size of the small gauge section of the
6 cable; an installation technique of the large gauge section; an installation technique of the
7 small gauge section; a filling type for the large gauge section; a filling type for the small
8 gauge section; an indication of a region at which the cable is located; an indication of a
9 distance of a communications channel segment between a Digital Subscriber Line access
10 module and a wire distribution frame; and an indication of a gauge of a cable in the
11 communications channel segment between the Digital Subscriber Line access module and
12 wire distribution frame.

1 9. The method of claim 1, wherein calculating the data communications
2 speed of the communications channel based on the records comprises calculating the data
3 communications speed of the communications channel based on the records indicating
4 physical characteristics of the communications channel.

1 10. The method of claim 9, wherein calculating the data communications
2 speed further comprises determining electrical characteristics based on the records
3 indicating physical characteristics of the communications channel.

1 11. The method of claim 10, wherein calculating the data communications
2 speed comprises causing test equipment to probe the communications channel to
3 determine a length of the communications channel.

1 12. The method of claim 10, wherein calculating the data communications
2 speed of the communications channel comprises calculating the data communications
3 speed of a Digital Subscriber Line subscribe loop.

1 13. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 calculating an updated data communications speed of the communications
3 channel based on the updated records; and
4 comparing the updated data communications speed with the actual data
5 communications speed to determine if a difference exists between the updated data
6 communications speed and the actual data communications speed.

1 14. The method of claim 13, further comprising generating another value to
2 update the records in response to the difference between the updated data
3 communications speed and the actual data communications speed.

1 15. The method of claim 1, wherein calculating the data communications
2 speed of the communications channel comprises calculating the data communications
3 speed of a communications channel between customer premise equipment and an access
4 module.

1 16. The method of claim 1, wherein calculating the data communications
2 speed of the communications channel comprises calculating the data communications
3 speed of a group of plural subscriber loops coupled to respective plural customer premise
4 equipment.

1 17. An article comprising at least one storage medium containing instructions
2 that when executed cause one or more systems to:
3 access records pertaining to characteristics of a communications channel;
4 determine variance between a predicted data communications speed of the
5 communications channel based on the records and an actual data communications speed
6 of the communications channel; and
7 update the records based on the determined variance.

1 18. The article of claim 17, wherein the instructions when executed cause the
2 one or more systems to access the records pertaining to the characteristics of a Digital
3 Subscriber Line subscriber loop.

1 19. The article of claim 18, wherein the instructions when executed cause the
2 one or more systems to access records pertaining to the physical characteristics of Digital
3 Subscriber Line subscriber loop.

1 20. The article of claim 17, wherein the instructions when executed cause the
2 one or more systems to access records pertaining to the characteristics of a group of
3 Digital Subscriber Line subscriber loops, the communications channel comprising the
4 group of Digital Subscriber Line subscriber loops.

1 21. The article of claim 17, wherein the instructions when executed cause the
2 one or more systems to further calculate the predicted data communications speed based
3 on the records.

1 22. The article of claim 17, wherein the instructions when executed cause the
2 one or more systems to further provide a graphical user interface to display the records.

1 23. The article of claim 22, wherein the instructions when executed cause the
2 one or more systems to update the records in response to user input of one or more
3 updated values.

1 24. The article of claim 17, wherein the instructions when executed cause the
2 one or more systems to further determine the actual data communications speed by
3 accessing a value in a Digital Subscribe Line access module.

1 25. The article of claim 17, wherein the instructions when executed cause the
2 one or more systems to further perform a loop qualification process of the
3 communications channel using the updated records to qualify the communications
4 channel for Digital Subscribe Line data access.

1 26. A system comprising:
2 an interface adapted to access records pertaining to characteristics of a
3 communications channel; and
4 a controller adapted to receive an estimated bandwidth of the
5 communications channel that is calculated based on the records;
6 the controller adapted to receive an indication of an actual bandwidth of
7 the communications channel;
8 the controller adapted to update the records to reduce a variance between
9 the calculated bandwidth and the estimated bandwidth.

1 27. The system of claim 26, wherein the communications channel comprises a
2 Digital Subscriber Line subscriber loop.